(better visible in Figure 2) having a plurality of spaced apart openings 12b. The openings 12b are indicated in phantom in Figure 2. The mounting feet 18 are all securely affixed to the outer body surface 14 via conventional fasteners such as rivnuts.

[0021] The article carrier 10 further includes at least one cross bar 20 which may be adjustably positioned along the siderails 12. Preferably, a second adjustable cross bar 21 is also provided. Cross bar 21 is shown as being identical to cross bar 20, but it will be appreciated that a fixed cross bar could be substituted in place of adjustable cross bar 21. Since cross bars 20 and 21 are identical, reference only to cross bar 20 will be made when describing the construction and components of each of the cross bars 20 and 21.

[0022] The cross bar 20 includes an end support 22 at each end thereof which supports a cross bar member 24 therebetween above the outer body surface 14. Each of the end supports 22 further include a user engageable actuating member 26. The actuating member 26 allows both end supports 22 to be simultaneously locked or unlocked from the siderails 12 by unlocking only one of the actuating members 26. This operation will be described in greater detail in the following paragraphs.

[0023] Referring to Figures 2 and 3, one of the end supports 22 is shown in greater detail. End support 22 includes a housing 22a having a base portion 22b integrally formed therewith. Base portion 22b includes a pair of bores 28 each adapted to receive a shaft 32 of a guide wheel 30 therein. The guide wheels 30 help to guide the base portion 22b within the channel 12a of its

associated siderail 12 such that the entire housing 22a can be moved slidably along the siderail when the actuating member 26 is in its unlocked position.

[0024] The housing 22a further includes a channel or trough 34 which is in communication with an opening 36 (Figure 3) in the base portion 22b. An open area 38 separates the channel 34 from the base portion 22b. A distal end 24a of cross bar member 24 is received within an opening 40 (Figure 2) of the housing 22a and is secured therein preferably via one or more threaded fasteners (not shown) in conventional fashion.

[0025] With further reference to Figure 2, the locking pin 42 includes a generally cylindrical body 44 having an elongated slot 46 and a pair of oppositely extending post portions 48. A shoulder 50 abuts one end of a spring 52 when the end support 22 is assembled such that the end support can be biased continuously towards its associated siderail 12. A tapered nose 54 of the locking pin 42 further eases insertion of the locking pin into one of the openings 12b in the siderail 12.

[0026] Referring further to Figures 2 and 4, the actuating member 26 will now be described. The actuating member 26 is retained to the housing via a pivot pin which includes a manually graspable end portion 56 and a main body portion 58. The main body portion 58 includes a bore 60 through which a pivot pin 62 is inserted. The pivot pin 62 further extends through an opening 22c (Figure 2) in the housing 22a, and the slot 46 in the locking pin 42 when the end support 22 is fully assembled. With specific reference to Figure 4, the main body

portion 58 includes a pair of spaced apart camming surfaces 64 which each have a detent recess 66.

[0027] Referring now to Figures 4 and 5, the actuating member 26 can also be seen to include an attachment portion 68 which forms a pocket within which an enlarged end 70 of a cable 72 can be trapped. From Figure 5 it can be seen that cable 72 is also coupled to the locking pin 42 of the opposite end support 22. The cable 72 extends within the channel 24b of the cross bar member 24 and is concealed underneath a support strip 73 which is placed over the channel portion 24b of the cross bar member 24 during final assembly of the cross bar 20. The opposite actuating member 26 similarly includes a cable 76 coupled to the locking pin 42 of the leftmost actuating member 26 in the drawing of Figure 5. Cable 76 is likewise disposed in within channel 24 when the cross bar 20 is fully assembled. Cable 76 is secured to cable 72 by a spring 74 which helps to maintain tension in each of the cables.

[0028] During operation, when the actuating members 26 are both in their locked positions (Figure 5), the spring 52 associated with each end support 22 biases its associated locking pin 42 into engagement with one of the openings 12b in an associated one of the siderails 12. When the cross bar 20 is to be adjustably positioned on the siderails 12, the user grasps the end portion 56 of one or the other of the actuating members 26 and lifts upwardly to urge the member 26 into the position shown in Figure 6. The post portions 48 of the locking pin 42 associated with the actuating member 26 being unlocked rides over the camming surfaces 64 until seating within the detent recesses 66. When